

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

In the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph on page 4 beginning on line 17 with the following amended paragraph:

Figure 3A and 3B is a are western blots showing reactivity of antisera raised against recombinant Sp130 (derived from strain Norway serotype 4) with whole cell lysates of heterologous stains. All *S. pneumoniae* strains tested showed a band of molecular weight about 220 kD, the expected mass for a protein containing both the Sp 128 and Sp130 sequences, indicating that this protein was present in all the tested strains. Tested strains included isolates from each of the pneumococcal serotypes represented in the currently used 23-valent polysaccharide vaccine.

Please replace the paragraph on page 28 beginning on line 1 with the following amended paragraph:

The rabbit anti-Sp130 sera revealed 2 major bands with apparent molecular weights of 110 kD and 220 kD in all 23 pneumococcal lysates tested (as shown in Figure 3A and 3B).

Please replace the paragraph on page 27 beginning on line 12 with the following amended paragraph:

The pneumococcal strains used in this experiment were obtained from the American Type Culture Collection (Rockville, MD 10801 University Boulevard, Manassas, VA 20110-2209) and include one isolate from each of the serotypes in the currently used multivalent pneumococcal vaccine.

In the Claims:

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

Please cancel claim 2, 5-10,14-17, 19, 20 and 22 without prejudice. Please add claim 23.

Please amend the claims to read as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) An immunogenic composition comprising an isolated polypeptide, including immunogenic fragments thereof, having an amino acid sequence with at least 65% 80% identity to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 8 wherein said polypeptide is in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and binds to an antibody specific when administered to a mammal elicits an antibody specific for Streptococcus pneumoniae.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently Amended) The immunogenic composition of claim 1 wherein the percent identity to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 8 said sequence identity is at least 95%.

4. (Currently Amended) ~~The~~ An immunogenic composition of claim 1 wherein ~~said polypeptide has~~ comprising an isolated polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 8.

5. – 10. (Cancelled)

11. (Currently Amended) A vaccine comprising:

- a. ~~one or more S. pneumoniae polypeptides selected from the group consisting of polypeptides of claims~~ the immunogenic composition of claim 1, 2, 3, 4 or 23; and
- b. a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier;

wherein said polypeptide is present in an amount effective to elicit protective antibodies in an animal mammal against an organism of the genus Streptococcus S. pneumoniae.

12. (Withdrawn) A method of preventing or attenuating an infection caused by a member of the genus Streptococcus in an animal, comprising administering to said animal a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of the polypeptide of claims 1, 2, 3, and 4, and wherein said polypeptide is administered in an amount effective to prevent or attenuate said infection.

13. (Withdrawn) A method of preventing pneumococcal infection by administering to an animal a vaccine according to claim 11

14. – 17. (Cancelled)

18. (Currently Amended) A vaccine comprising an isolated polypeptide, including or immunogenic fragment thereof having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 8.

19. – 20. (Cancelled)

21. (Currently Amended) The vaccine of claim 18 wherein said immunogenic fragments comprises one or more of the fragments selected from residues 657 – 773, 650 - 773, 640 - 773, 630 - 773, 610 - 773, and 600 – 773 of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 8.

22. (Cancelled)

23. (New) An immunogenic composition comprising an isolated polypeptide which is an immunogenic fragment of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 8.